

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00
INRE-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-07 TRSE-00
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O 121706Z APR 77
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2817
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO CINCLANT
USCINCEUR
USLOSACLANT
USNMR SHAPE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 USNATO 2117

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MPOL, NATO
SUBJECT: MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE 1977; COMMENTS ON FOURTH DRAFT

REF: (A) USNATO 2100 (DTG 091112Z APR 77); (B) USNATO 2099
(DTG 091101Z APR 77); (C) STATE 076113 (DTG 052353Z
APR 77); (D) STATE 071624 (DTG 010124Z APR 77)

SUMMARY: DEFENSE REVIEW COMMITTEE (DRC) WILL REVIEW LATEST
DRAFT OF MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE 1977 BEGINNING WEEK OF APRIL 18,
WITH THE OBJECT OF A DRAFFT FOR PERMREPS APRIL 22. DURING THE
LAST DRC ROUND, WE PROPOSE TO RETAIN BRACKETS (IF NECESSARY)
ONLY ON A FEW KEY ISSUES:
RESOURCE GUIDANCE, DEFICIENT EQUIPMENT AREAS REQUIRING
PRIORITY ATTENTION, AND GUIDANCE TO DPC PERMREPS.
ACTION REQUESTED: GUIDANCE BY OOB APRIL 18, END SUMMARY.

1. FOURTH DRAFT OF MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE 1977 (REF A), AS
PRODUCED BY DRC APRIL 5-6 (REF B), IS SIGNIFICANTLY IMPROVED
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OVER PREVIOUS VERSION, AND LARGELY CONFORMS TO WASHINGTON
GUIDANCE. WE BELIEVE THE PRIMARY DRC TASK IN FINAL
STAGES OF DRAFTING, DURING THE WEEK OF APRIL 18,
SHOULD BE TO POLISH LANGUAGE AND TO LAY OUT CLEAR
ALTERNATIVES FOR PERMREPS AND MINISTERS ON ITEMS
WHERE DRC REPS ARE UNABLE TO AGREE. IN ORDER TO
AVOID OVERLOADING EVENTUAL PERMREP AND MINISTERIAL
ATTENTION WITH PERIPHERAL AND SEMANTICAL DISAGREE-
MENTS, WHICH WOULD ONLY SERVE TO DISTRACT THEM FROM
REALLY IMPORTANT ISSUES, WE RECOMMEND WASHINGTON

AUTHORIZATION FOR RETAINING BRACKETS (IF NECESSARY)
ON ONLY A FEW KEY AREAS: RESOURCE GUIDANCE (PARA 41),
NATO DEFICIENCIES (PARA 13), AND GUIDANCE TO DPC
PERMREPS (PARA 61).

2. UNFORTUANTELY, THE LANGUAGE PROVIDED AS
SUPPLEMENTAL GUIDANCE IN REF C ARRIVED TOO LATE
TO BE INTRODUCED INTO DRC DRAFTING IN THE LAST ROUND.
WE WILL SEEK TO INTRODUCE STILL-APPLICABLE PORTIONS
OF IT IN THE NEXT ROUND (SEE BELOW).

3. OUR DETAILED COMMENT FOLLOWS:

A. PARA 6. WE HAD RESISTED NOTION OF SIMPLY
"REAFFIRMING" MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE 1975 AS A
TACTIC TO ALLOW FOR FLESHING OUT CURRENT DRAFT.
NOW THAT MG 1977 MEETS CRITERION OF BEING SELF-
CONTAINED, WE ARE INDIFFERENT AS TO WHETHER THE
BRACKETED PHRASE (WHICH THE UK FAVORS AND CANADA
OPPOSES) IS INCLUDED, AND PROPOSE TO SIDE WITH THE
MAJORITY.

B. PARA 9. WE ARE PUZZLED BY REFERENCE TO
A "NEW SUBMARIEN-LAUNCHED BALLISTIC MISSILE SYSTEM,"
WHICH FRG RAISED AT APRIL 5 DRC. IF REFERENCE IS
TO SS-N-8, IT IS NOT "NEW;" IF REFERENCE IS
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SS-N-X-18, WE DOUBT THE WISDOM OF GROUPING IT
WITH SS-20, WHOSE DEPLOYMENT MAY BE IMMINENT. ALL
THINGS CONSIDERED, WE WOULD PREFER TO SEE REFERENCE TO
THE SS-N-X-18 SAVED FOR A LATER VERSION OF MINISTERIAL
GUIDANCE OR SIMILAR ALLIANCE DOCUMENT, BUT WOULD APPRECIATE
SPECIFIC GUIDANCE ON THIS POINT.

C. PARA 13. BOTH THE LISTING OF SERIOUS DEFICIENCIES
IN ALLIANCE DEFENSES (PARA 13) AND THE EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT
PRIORITIES (PARA 45) ARE BRACKETED. WE PROPOSE TO FOCUS OUR
EFFORTS ON RETAINING THE PARA 13 DEFICIENCIES LIST. IN
ATTEMPTING TO ENLIST ALLIED SUPPORT FOR A SET OF EQUIPMENT
REPLACEMENT PRIORITIES (PARA 45), WE RUN THE DANGER OF SO
EXPANDING THE LIST AS TO MAKE IT A MEANINGLESS COMPENDIUM OF
ALL POSSIBLE PROGRAMS. IN THE LAST ROUND, WE WERE HARD
PRESSED TO RESIST THE ADDITION OF A NUMBER OF ITEMS; AND
SACLANT REP, FOR ONE, COMMENTED THAT SHOULD THIS SUBPARA BE
RETAINED, HE WOULD WANT TO ADD FOUR MORE ITEMS. IN ADDITION,
IF WE ARE WILLING TO FOREGO AN EQUIPMENT PRIORITIES LIST,
WE WILL BE ABLE TO RETAIN THE TERM "PRIORITIES" IN THE TITLE
OF THIS SECTION, RATHER THAN "ISSUES" OR "GUIDELINES." MOST
IMPORTANTLY, CLEARLY LISTING CRITICAL DEFICIENCIES IN
ALLIANCE DEFENSES, ACCOMPANIED BY A MORE GENERAL SECTION ON
PRIORITIES, SHOULD PROVIDE A MORE APPROPRIATE PLATFORM FOR SEC-

RETARY BROWN TO USE SHOULD HE WISH TO PROPOSE A MORE SPECIFIC PROGRAM OF PRIORITY MEASURES TO ENHANCE NATO DEFENSE.

D. PARA 19. WE WILL SEEK TO ADD "AND LOGISTICS,"
ADDING FOOTNOTE TO REFER TO MC 55/2 (PARA 3, REF C), BUT
WOULD PREFER NOT TO BRACKET, SINCE LOGISTICS STANDARDS

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 USNATO 2117
ARE INCLUDED IN THAT DOCUMENT.

E. PARA 20. WE WILL ATTEMPT TO INCORPORATE A STATE-
MENT OF THE NEED FOR READY FORCES TO HAVE ACCESS TO ADEQUATE
STOCKS. WE WOULD PREFER NOT TO INTRODUCE LANGUAGE IN THIS
SECTION OF THE GUIDANCE WHICH ASSERTS A GOAL OF FRINGING ALL
ASSIGNED FORCES TO CATEGORY A-1 STATUS BY 1984 REF C, PARA
4). WE PROPOSE INSTEAD TO ADD TO PARA 48: "-SELECTIVELY
URGE NATIONS TO BRING IN-PLACE AND ASSIGNED LAND FORCES UP
TO CATEGORY A-1 STATUS." OUR REASONING IS AS FOLLOWS:

- ANY GENERAL LANGUAGE (E.G. "GOAL") WOULD BE
WATERED DOWN BY SUCH PHRASES AS "IF POSSIBLE";

- THE MNCS SHOULD DECIDE WHICH OF THEIR ASSIGNED FORCES
NEED TO BE IN A-1 STATUS;

- GENERAL LANGUAGE MIGHT RESULT IN A GENERAL FLIGHT
OF FORCES FROM "ASSIGNED" TO "EARMARKED" STATUS, THUS
REVERSING ONE OF THE VERY POSITIVE TRENDS IN ALLIANCE
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DEFENSE OVER THE PAST SEVERAL YEARS;

- ALTHOUGH WE ARE CERTAIN THAT THE ALLIES WOULD APPLAUD US DETERMINATION TO STATION DUAL-BASED US ARMY UNITS IN EUROPE (WHICH THEY WOULD SEE US INTRODUCTION OF THIS LANGUAGE AS PORTENDING), WE DOUBT WHETHER THE US COULD DO THIS BY 1984.

F. PARA 23. WE WILL SEEK TO ADD LANGUAGE ON HOLDINGS OF ANTI-ARMOR STOCKS (PARA 7, REF C), BUT PROPOSE TO PLACE IT FOLLOWING PARA 49.

G. PARA 25. WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT THIS PARAGRAPH (WHICH ONLY UK AND ASYG MUMFORD FAVOR) SHOULD BE DELETED (PARA 3, RF D). IF WE ARE ISOLATED, HOWEVER, WE WOULD PROPOSE DROPPING OUR OBJECTION.

H. PARA 27. OUR EFFORTS TO STRENGTHEN LANGUAGE OF THE LAST SENTENCE AND TO MOVE THIS PARAGRAPH TO THE "ALLIANCE COOPERATION" SECTION GAINED NO SUPPORT IN THE LAST ROUND. WE PROPOSE TO:

- SUGGEST THE FOLLOWING LANGUAGE FOLLOWING PARA 33(E):
"WHILE THE PROVISION OF LOGISTIC SUPPORT REMAINS A NATIONAL RESPONSIBILITY, NATO HAS A CONCURRENT RESPONSIBILITY FOR HARMONIZING AND COORDINATING NATIONAL LOGISTICS EFFORTS IN PEACETIME AND MANAGING MULTINATIONAL LOGISTICS IN WAR-TIME. NATO MUST ADDRESS AND RESOLVE ITS LOGISTICS PROBLEMS IN A RESOLUTE AND COORDINATED MANNER."

- ADD LANGUAGE TO PARA 27 ALONG THE LINES OF PARA 5 REF C. WE DOUBT, HOWEVER, WHETHER DRC WILL ACCEPT SUCH TERMS OF ART AS "D-DAY AIRCRAFT POPULATION" IN A DOCUMENT SUCH AS MG 77, AND SUGGEST THAT MORE GENERAL LANGUAGE BE USED.

I. PARA 41. WE COULD COUNTENANCE DROPPING THE BRACKETED CONFIDENTIAL

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WORD "CONSTANT," WHICH THE BELGIAN REP INTRODUCED TO CONVEY THE SENSE OF CONSTANT PRICES; A WORD THAT IS UNNECESSARY IN VIEW OF "IN REAL TERMS." WE PROPOSE AND STRONGLY RECOMMEND, HOWEVER, TO STAND FIRM ON THE BRACKETED PHRASE "OF AT LEAST 3 PER CENT," AND ON THE BRACKETED FORMULATIONS DESCRIBING NATO AVERAGES (AS OPPOSED TO NATO EUROPE AVERAGES) OF PER CENT OF GDP AND PER CAPITA DEFENSE EXPENDITURES.

J. PARA 42. WE WOULD PREFER DELETION OF BRACKETED LAST SENTENCE, BUT PROPOSE TO SIDE WITH THE MAJORITY.

K. PARA 43. WE FORESEE NO PROBLEM WITH RETENTION OF "SURVIVABILITY," THOUGH WE COULD END UP WITH "EFFECTIVENESS" AS WELL, BECAUSE OF STRONG FRG PREFERENCE.

L. PARA 44. WE ARE PREPARED TO DROP THE WORD
"COALITION" IN FAVOR OF "COLLECTIVE."

M. PARA 45. PROVIDED WE ARE ABLE TO RETAIN THE LISTING
OF DEFICIENCIES IN PARA 13 (SEE SUBPARA (C)), WE ARE
PREPARED TO DROP THE "EQUIPMENT LIST" AT THE THIRD "TIC."
CANADA HAS BEEN A STRONG SUPPORTER OF OUR PROPOSAL, HOWEVER,
AND WE WOULD WANT TO CONSULT WITH THEM BEFORE THE NEXT
MEETING ON DEVELOPING A COMMON APPROACH.

N. PARA 61. WE GAINED ONLY CANADIAN SUPPORT FOR A
SECTION ON GUIDANCE TO PERMREPS IN THE LAST ROUND (PARA 6,
REF D). WE HAVE HAD INDICATION, HOWEVER, THAT FRG MAY
SUPPORT THE IDEA. WE FAVOR RETENTION OF BRACKETS (IF
NECESSARY) IN DRC BUT WOULD FALL OFF AT DPC PERMREP LEVEL.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: GUIDANCE BY COB, APRIL 18.
STRAUSZ-HUPE

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